

### 3. CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A pre-surgical safety, warning, notification, and/or alerting device or system comprising, in combination, an effectively shaped topical pre-printed or diagrammed warning strip.
2. A pre-surgical safety, warning, notification, and/or alerting device or system as described in Claim 1, including, in combination, an adhesive strip.
3. A pre-surgical safety warning, notification, and/or alerting device or system as described in Claim 1, wherein the notification agent is placed onto an adhesive surface.
4. A method for pre-surgically warning, notifying and/or alerting the surgical health care provider(s) that they are not at the intended surgical site, comprising the steps of:
  - forming a pre-surgical safety warning, notification, and/or alerting device or system in combination with an adhesive strip or surface and applying the safety, warning, notification, and/or alerting device or system topically at a location that alerts the surgical health care provider(s) that they are not at the intended surgical site.
5. A method as defined in Claim 4 wherein:
  - the pre-surgical safety, warning, notification, and/or alerting device or system is attached to an adhesive surface, and topically applying the adhesive surface at a location that alerts the surgical health care provider(s) that they are not at the intended surgical site.
6. A method as defined in Claim 5 further comprising:
  - leaving the pre-surgical safety, warning, notification, and/or alerting device or system on the skin for a predetermined sufficient amount

of time for complete, unambiguous pre-surgical identification of the impending surgical site as not being the intended surgical site.

7. A method as defined in Claim 6 further comprising an adhesive surface with an effective amount of a vinyl, PVC, cellulose, woven filament, fabric or other material of various sizes and shapes as a pre-printed surface.

8. A pre-surgical safety, warning, notification, and/or alerting device or system for topical application to the skin, comprising:

a pre-surgical safety, warning, notification, and/or alerting device or system, pre-printed and diagrammed; and an adhesive surface onto which the pre-surgical safety warning, notification, alerting device or system can be affixed for topical application to the skin and holding the pre-surgical safety, warning, notification, and/or alerting device or system in contact with a patient's skin at an unintended surgical site.